DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 2003D-0349]

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| Certifier 5. | LE DESMA |

Draft Guidance for Reviewers: Instructions and Template for Chemistry,
Manufacturing, and Control Reviewers of Human Somatic Cell Therapy
Investigational New Drug Applications; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

summary: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the availability of a draft document entitled "Guidance for Reviewers: Instructions and Template for Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Control (CMC) Reviewers of Human Somatic Cell Therapy Investigational New Drug Applications (INDs)" dated August 2003. The draft guidance document, when finalized, will provide instructions to CMC reviewers of human somatic cell therapies on what information should be recorded and assessed as part of their review of an original IND. The draft guidance document, when finalized, will also provide CMC reviewers the format in the corresponding human somatic cellular therapy CMC template to prepare their reviews.

DATES: Submit written or electronic comments on the draft guidance by [insert date 90 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**], to ensure their adequate consideration in preparation of the final document. General comments on agency guidance documents are welcome at any time.

ADDRESSES: Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Office of Communication, Training, and Manufacturers Assistance (HFM–

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40), Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852–1448. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist the office in processing your requests. The draft guidance may also be obtained by mail by calling the CBER Voice Information System at 1–800–835–4709 or 301–827–1800. See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

Submit written comments on the draft guidance to the Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to http://www.fda.gov/dockets/ecomments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Astrid L. Szeto, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM-17), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-1448, 301-827-6210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FDA is announcing the availability of a draft document entitled "Guidance for Reviewers: Instructions and Template for Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Control (CMC) Reviewers of Human Somatic Cell Therapy Investigational New Drug Applications (INDs)" dated August 2003. The draft guidance document provides instructions and a template that are intended to be tools to assist CMC reviewers of human somatic cell therapy INDs. The draft guidance document is intended to help ensure that all applicable regulatory requirements are reviewed for the appropriate stage of product development.

This draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The draft guidance, when finalized, will

provide instructions to CMC reviewers of human somatic cell therapies on what information should be recorded and assessed as part of their review of an original IND. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. An alternative approach may be used if such approach satisfies the requirement of the applicable statutes and regulations.

II. Comments

The draft guidance is being distributed for comment purposes only and is not intended for implementation at this time. Interested persons may submit to the Division of Dockets Management (see ADDRESSES) written or electronic comments regarding the draft guidance. Submit written or electronic comments to ensure adequate consideration in preparation of the final guidance. Submit a single copy of electronic comments or two paper copies of any mailed comments, except that individuals may submit one paper copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. A copy of the draft guidance and received comments are available for public examination in the Division of Dockets Management between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the Internet may obtain the draft guidance at either http://www.fda.gov/cber/guidelines.htm or http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/default.htm.

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August 7, 2003.

Jeffrey Shuren,

Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-????? Filed ??-??-03; 8:45 am]

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